

INFORMATION CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Argentina

DATE DISTR. 26 November 1948

SUBJECT Argentine Government's Policy Towards Communists

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B-2 1. The Seccion Especial unit of the Argentine Federal Police has asked the anti-Communist Federation of Polish Societies to provide all its members with proper identification papers in order that members of this group will be protected against any mistakes that may be made. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ this warning may be an indication that the Federal Police are preparing to act against Slav Communists. 25X1X6

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2. Although no specific indications of action against Slav Communists have been found, the Federal Police have been unusually active during the past few weeks in compiling files of Argentine Communists. Captain Jorge Osinde, chief of the Federal Coordination section of the Federal Police, has compiled a fairly complete list of Communists which has been made available to President Peron, the Minister of War, and the Chief of the Federal Police.
3. Osinde has been following President Peron's instructions to refrain from moving against leading Communists, the theory being that more information can be obtained by allowing these individuals freedom of action. The Police, however, have continued to arrest numerous minor Communists and have attempted to secure information from them by means of intimidation and torture.
4. For political reasons Peron finds it expedient to take no drastic measures against Communists at the present time. For example, Peron finds the Communists useful in furthering the government's plan to reform the Constitution and in spreading anti-imperialistic propaganda when the government finds it convenient to blast Wall Street.

B-3 5. Another source alleged that Minister of Interior Angel Borlenghi, who is said to be very friendly to the Communists, issued orders to suspend the close watching of important Communists and convinced Peron that no serious danger exists. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. If the heavy infiltration of Communists among the working class is left unchecked, the Communists will eventually gain the upper hand and lead the government towards the moderate left. This movement will be effectuated with the help of Borlenghi and under the guise of a united front against Yankee imperialism.)

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